

Thank you for your interest in Monastery Caskets, a ministry of the Benedictine Monks of Chicago. Through fraternal collaboration with St. Meinrad Archabbey, we are able to offer simple and dignified handmade wooden caskets and burial urns for your consideration. Each one reflects the spirit of St. Benedict and the 1500-year tradition of our Benedictine monasteries. Through this corporal work of mercy, may we together ever strive to seek, love and serve God, that in all things God be glorified.



*Father Edward Glanzmann, OSB
Director, Monastery Caskets*

Monastery Caskets offers handmade wooden caskets and cremation urns for sale to the public both from a showroom at the Monastery, by phone, and online at www.monasterycaskets.com.

Many people find the idea of purchasing caskets from a monastery very fitting. It emphasizes the dignity that the Church has always placed upon Christian burial and the treatment of the remains of loved ones. It also provides an excellent way of contributing to the ongoing work and ministries of our monasteries.

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Dark-cherry St. Joseph casket



Dark cherry urn

These caskets and urns are ready for shipping anywhere in the continental United States and can be delivered directly to the funeral home at the time of need.



Corner detail

Presentation

Both caskets and burial urns are made according to specifications and expectations of the monks. They are intended to be simple in design and dignified in presentation.

We offer two styles of caskets: one, the St. Benedict casket, is referred to as “shaped” and is reminiscent of old-world expectations. This, in fact, is the one favored by the monks. The other style, the St. Joseph casket, is a traditional rectangular shaped casket that fits the general expectations of American families.

The St. Joseph casket comes in a deep cherry finish, while the St. Benedict casket can be purchased in either light natural finish or dark cherry. Each casket has a detachable cross on the lid that can be removed at the time of burial and kept as a remembrance. Additional duplicate crosses can also be purchased for distribution after the funeral.

The urns come in a deep cherry finish and also feature the detachable cross on the lid.

Pre-need

We also offer the option of pre-need sales of caskets. The casket can be selected and paid for in advance so that at the time of need the family simply contacts the Monastery for immediate delivery to the selected funeral home. This is something some people like to take care of before the often-emotional moment of the passing of a loved one.

Shipping

These caskets and urns are ready for shipping anywhere in the continental United States and can be delivered now or to the funeral home at the time of need.

The Funeral Rule

According to the Federal Trade Commission’s recently established “Funeral Rule,” a funeral home or mortuary may not refuse or charge a fee to handle a casket or urn purchased elsewhere.

Professional funeral providers will be happy to receive a casket from Monastery Caskets. Monks of the community have used this service for deceased family members in the past few years and report no difficulty in arranging the use of a monastery-crafted casket.

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Dark-cherry St. Benedict casket



Light, natural-finish St. Benedict casket



Natural-finish St. Benedict casket